

News

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New York Office

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MARCH JOB COUNT FOR GREATER NEW YORK AREA RISES BY 61,500 FROM A YEAR AGO

Total nonfarm employment for the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island Metropolitan Statistical Area¹ stood at 8,262,800 in March, 61,500 above its year-ago level, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The greater New York area's job count grew at a 0.7-percent pace over the 12-month period, below the 1.6-percent increase for the nation. (See chart 1.) Regional Commissioner Michael L. Dolfman pointed out that the increase in March, although somewhat lower than January's and February's annual changes of 1.1 and 0.9 percent, respectively, was close to the 0.5- and 0.6-percent increases recorded in each of the last seven months of 2004. (All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)

Employment in the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island Area

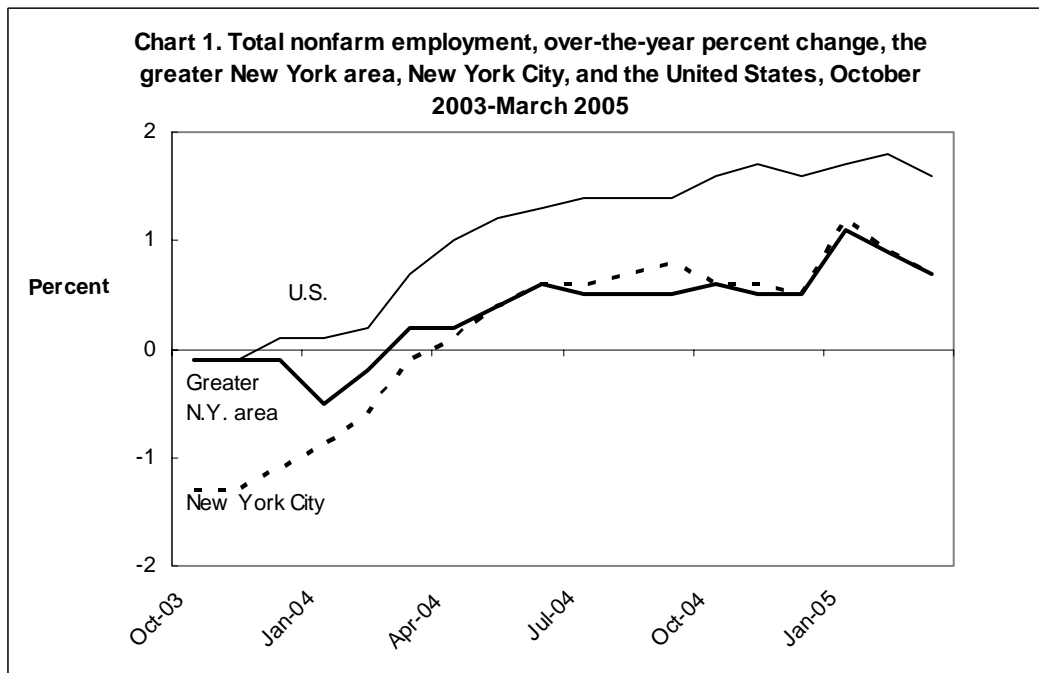
In March the greater New York area recorded its thirteenth straight month of over-the-year job gains. Despite these repeated gains, the job count remained 136,600 (or 1.6 percent) below its March 2001 level at the start of the last national recession.

Education and health services experienced the strongest growth from March a year ago, adding 25,100 jobs. The March increase, although somewhat lower than January's and February's changes of 30,300 and 27,500, respectively, was slightly better than the average of 19,700 recorded in the last seven months of 2004. Employment in leisure and hospitality rose by 19,800, roughly the same as the increases in January and February. Employment in this industry is now 42,700 (or 7.7 percent) above its level at the start of the last recession four years earlier. Financial activities added 13,000 jobs from March 2004 to March 2005.

¹ The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) consists of New York City, Nassau, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties in New York; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, and Union Counties in New Jersey; and Pike County, Pennsylvania. For convenience, the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island MSA is referred to as the greater New York area throughout this release.



Round-the-clock recorded messages for the **Consumer Price Index** and a variety of other **Bureau of Labor Statistics** data are available by dialing the **New York Information Office's** main telephone number: **(212) 337-2400**. For recorded messages, press '2.' Press '1' for 24-hour Fax-on-Demand service.



Despite this gain, employment in this sector remains 32,400 (or 4 percent) below its March 2001 level. Other industries with over-the-year job gains in March 2004 included trade, transportation, and utilities (8,100); government (5,300); construction and mining (3,300); other services (1,300); and professional and business services (1,200). By contrast, manufacturing lost 13,700 jobs over the year in March—roughly the same as the annual decreases recorded in January and February—and information lost 1,500 jobs.

The greater New York area contains four Metropolitan Divisions, essentially separately identifiable employment centers within a metropolitan area. Three of the four divisions added jobs over the year, with the largest gain occurring in New York-Wayne-White Plains (38,900) and smaller gains in Edison (14,900) and Nassau-Suffolk (13,600). (See table A.) In contrast with the other divisions, Newark-Union shed 5,800 jobs over the year. The over-the-year increase in March for the New York-Wayne Metropolitan Division was down somewhat from January's gain of 59,000 and February's gain of 50,500 jobs. Nonetheless, the March increase was slightly above the 31,900 average change for the last seven months of 2004.

The New York-Wayne-White Plains Metropolitan Division consists of New York City and two three-county areas: Putnam-Rockland-Westchester in New York and Bergen-Hudson-Passaic in New Jersey. Of these three components, New York City accounted for most of the over-the-year increase in employment (up 25,600), followed by Putnam-Rockland-Westchester (up 10,500). Bergen-Hudson-Passaic, although much larger than the Westchester component, recorded a smaller increase (3,000 jobs).

Among the four divisions in the greater New York area, only Edison's employment increase (1.5 percent) was similar to that for the nation (1.6 percent). Nassau-Suffolk and New York-Wayne had gains of 1.1 and 0.8 percent, respectively, while Newark-Union lost 0.6 percent of its jobs over the year. (See map 1.) However, within the New York-Wayne Metropolitan Division one component, Westchester-Rockland-Putnam, had above-average job growth (1.9 percent) over the year.

Table A. Nonfarm employment, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, not seasonally adjusted
(Numbers in thousands)

Area	2004 March	2004 Dec.	2005 Jan.	2005 Feb.	2005 March p	Change from March 2004 to March 2005p
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island	8,201.3	8,440.6	8,177.7	8,197.8	8,262.8	61.5
Edison	992.5	1,024.5	994.2	996.3	1,007.4	14.9
Nassau-Suffolk	1,214.4	1,263.9	1,205.9	1,212.2	1,228.0	13.6
New York-Wayne-White Plains	4,971.2	5,110.9	4,964.4	4,978.0	5,010.1	38.9
Bergen-Hudson-Passaic	894.3	920.6	892.3	894.0	897.3	3.0
New York City	3,522.4	3,612.6	3,516.0	3,525.8	3,548.0	25.6
Putnam-Rockland-Westchester	554.3	577.7	556.1	558.2	564.8	10.5
Newark-Union	1,023.1	1,041.1	1,013.2	1,011.3	1,017.3	-5.8

p = preliminary.

NOTE: The Edison Metropolitan Division consists of Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Somerset Counties in New Jersey. The Nassau-Suffolk Metropolitan Division consists of Nassau and Suffolk Counties in New York. The New York-Wayne-White Plains Metropolitan Division consists of New York City and Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam Counties in New York; and Bergen, Hudson, and Passaic Counties in New Jersey. The Newark-Union Metropolitan Division consists of Essex, Hunterdon, Morris, Sussex, and Union Counties in New Jersey; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

In the New York-Wayne Metropolitan Division, employment grew by 1.6 percent or more in several industry supersectors—leisure and hospitality, financial activities, and education and health. Leisure and hospitality showed robust growth in both the division and New York City, growing by 3.3 and 3.7 percent, respectively. In fact, New York City's employment gain was the largest March-to-March growth since 2001. While the patterns of job growth in the division and New York City were largely similar, there were some differences. Financial activities and education and health had slightly stronger growth rates in the division (1.9 and 1.6 percent, respectively) than in the City (1.2 and 1.3 percent, respectively). On the other hand, job growth in the information supersector in the City, 1.8 percent, was greater than in the division, 0.6 percent.

In the Edison Metropolitan Division, five supersectors experienced job growth greater than 1.6 percent -- construction and mining (6.6 percent), leisure and hospitality (5.0 percent), education and health services (4.6 percent), financial activities (2.2 percent), and government (2.1 percent). The other services supersector experienced the largest job loss, dropping 3.9 percent. In the Nassau-Suffolk Metropolitan Division, three supersectors showed substantial job growth, led by leisure and hospitality (4.6 percent), professional and business services (2.3 percent) and education and health services (1.8 percent). Total employment in the Newark-Union Metropolitan Division dropped by 0.6 percent, the ninth straight month of over-the-year employment declines. Employment losses were concentrated in three supersectors (manufacturing, information, and professional and business services). The information industry, which also lost jobs in the Edison and Nassau-Suffolk Metropolitan Divisions, dropped by 6.3 percent in the Newark-Union Metropolitan Division, the largest percentage decline of any supersector in the Newark-Union area.

Implementation of New Area Definitions

This is the first release from the New York office of the Bureau of Labor Statistics to contain data based on the federal government's redefinition of metropolitan statistical areas. The new definitions, issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, reflect the results of Census 2000. For more information on the new definitions, go to <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg/statpolicy.html#ms>. Data for the newly defined areas are available from January 1990 through March 2005. The new definitions contain a 23-county area called New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island. The old definitions contained a 31-county area with the same name. Because of the change in coverage, data for the two areas are not comparable.

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Technical Note

This release presents nonfarm payroll employment estimates from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program for the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island Metropolitan Statistical Area and the 12 largest metropolitan areas. The rankings were based on population estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2000. The CES program is a Federal-State cooperative endeavor.

Employment

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Persons are counted at their place of work rather than at their place of residence; those appearing on more than one payroll are counted on each payroll. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2002 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

Method of estimation. The employment data are estimated using a "link relative" technique in which a ratio (link relative) of current-month employment to that of the previous month is computed from a sample of establishments reporting for both months. The estimates of employment for the current month are obtained by multiplying the estimates for the previous month by these ratios. Small-domain models are used as the official estimators for the approximately 10 percent of CES published series.

Annual revisions. Employment estimates are adjusted annually to a complete count of jobs, called benchmarks, derived principally from tax reports which are submitted by employers who are covered under state unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The benchmark information is used to adjust the monthly estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one and also to establish the level of employment for the new benchmark month. Thus, the benchmarking process establishes the level of employment, and the sample is used to measure the month-to-month changes in the level for the subsequent months.

Reliability of the estimates

The estimates presented in this release are based on sample survey and administrative data and thus are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability--that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data are also subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the special estimation processes used. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error are available for state CES data at the NAICS supersector level and for metropolitan area CES data at the total nonfarm level. Information on recent benchmark revisions for states is available on the BLS Web site at (<http://www.bls.gov/sae/>).

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, dated February 18, 2004. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is published annually in the May issue of *Employment and Earnings*.

Additional information

More complete information on the technical procedures used to develop these estimates and additional data appear in *Employment and Earnings*, which is available by subscription from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402 (telephone 202-512-1800).

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone: 1-800-877-8339.

Table 1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, not seasonally adjusted
(Numbers in thousands)

Area and Industry	2004 March	2004 Dec.	2005 Jan.	2005 Feb.	2005 March p	Change from	
						March 2004 to March 2005 p Number	Percent
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island MSA							
Total nonfarm	8,201.3	8,440.6	8,177.7	8,197.8	8,262.8	61.5	0.7
Total private	6,918.4	7,144.3	6,908.3	6,916.0	6,974.6	56.2	0.8
Construction and mining	313.2	338.1	311.6	309.2	316.5	3.3	1.1
Manufacturing	503.2	495.5	484.3	486.5	489.5	-13.7	-2.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,558.1	1,649.9	1,576.7	1,562.0	1,566.2	8.1	0.5
Information	288.1	292.5	284.3	284.7	286.6	-1.5	-0.5
Financial activities	762.4	778.7	774.0	773.5	775.4	13.0	1.7
Professional and business services	1,209.0	1,239.2	1,190.4	1,194.4	1,210.2	1.2	0.1
Education and health services	1,364.3	1,386.2	1,364.1	1,378.3	1,389.4	25.1	1.8
Leisure and hospitality	574.6	612.5	580.2	583.2	594.4	19.8	3.4
Other services	345.1	351.2	342.7	344.2	346.4	1.3	0.4
Government	1,282.9	1,296.3	1,269.4	1,281.8	1,288.2	5.3	0.4
Edison Metropolitan Division							
Total nonfarm	992.5	1,024.5	994.2	996.3	1,007.4	14.9	1.5
Total private	843.2	873.2	846.5	845.2	854.9	11.7	1.4
Construction and mining	43.8	47.8	45.7	46.1	46.7	2.9	6.6
Manufacturing	82.6	82.6	83.1	83.0	83.0	0.4	0.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	223.2	233.8	224.7	220.4	222.9	-0.3	-0.1
Information	32.4	31.6	31.5	31.5	31.7	-0.7	-2.2
Financial activities	62.3	63.8	63.8	63.5	63.7	1.4	2.2
Professional and business services	159.7	167.2	154.9	156.2	159.9	0.2	0.1
Education and health services	128.5	131.3	133.2	133.6	134.4	5.9	4.6
Leisure and hospitality	70.0	74.6	71.1	72.1	73.5	3.5	5.0
Other services	40.7	40.5	38.5	38.8	39.1	-1.6	-3.9
Government	149.3	151.3	147.7	151.1	152.5	3.2	2.1
Nassau-Suffolk Metropolitan Division							
Total nonfarm	1,214.4	1,263.9	1,205.9	1,212.2	1,228.0	13.6	1.1
Total private	1,012.8	1,061.6	1,011.1	1,012.4	1,026.9	14.1	1.4
Construction and mining	61.5	67.3	59.7	59.1	61.8	0.3	0.5
Manufacturing	88.3	89.3	87.4	87.6	88.7	0.4	0.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	266.3	286.6	269.2	266.5	267.9	1.6	0.6
Information	28.7	29.3	28.5	28.5	28.6	-0.1	-0.3
Financial activities	83.3	83.8	83.2	83.0	83.8	0.5	0.6
Professional and business services	149.3	157.8	149.3	150.2	152.8	3.5	2.3
Education and health services	197.4	201.9	195.4	198.6	200.9	3.5	1.8
Leisure and hospitality	87.2	94.2	87.8	88.1	91.2	4.0	4.6
Other services	50.8	51.4	50.6	50.8	51.2	0.4	0.8
Government	201.6	202.3	194.8	199.8	201.1	-0.5	-0.2
New York-Wayne-White Plains Metropolitan Division							
Total nonfarm	4,971.2	5,110.9	4,964.4	4,978.0	5,010.1	38.9	0.8
Total private	4,200.1	4,330.6	4,196.6	4,208.3	4,237.3	37.2	0.9
Construction and mining	169.1	179.8	166.3	165.2	168.8	-0.3	-0.2
Manufacturing	238.3	231.0	223.3	225.2	226.8	-11.5	-4.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	852.4	905.0	864.7	859.5	858.8	6.4	0.8
Information	200.0	205.6	199.5	199.7	201.1	1.1	0.6
Financial activities	536.7	548.9	545.8	546.1	546.9	10.2	1.9
Professional and business services	738.3	753.0	730.4	732.8	741.0	2.7	0.4
Education and health services	900.5	912.7	897.3	908.1	915.0	14.5	1.6
Leisure and hospitality	355.6	380.1	359.8	361.4	367.5	11.9	3.3
Other services	208.9	214.0	209.5	210.3	211.4	2.5	1.2
Government	771.0	780.3	767.8	769.7	772.8	1.8	0.2

Table 1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, not seasonally adjusted—continued
(Numbers in thousands)

Area and Industry	2004 March	2004 Dec.	2005 Jan.	2005 Feb.	2005 March p	Change from	
						March 2004 to March 2005 p Number	Percent
New York City							
Total nonfarm	3,522.4	3,612.6	3,516.0	3,525.8	3,548.0	25.6	0.7
Total private	2,968.9	3,054.7	2,965.5	2,977.7	2,997.0	28.1	0.9
Construction and mining	107.9	113.3	105.4	105.3	107.4	-0.5	-0.5
Manufacturing	122.3	115.4	110.9	112.8	114.1	-8.2	-6.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	528.5	563.2	537.6	535.2	535.2	6.7	1.3
Information	158.9	166.5	160.2	160.7	161.8	2.9	1.8
Financial activities	431.4	438.0	435.3	435.8	436.4	5.0	1.2
Professional and business services	535.8	545.1	530.4	532.2	537.2	1.4	0.3
Education and health services	673.1	680.1	669.7	677.6	682.0	8.9	1.3
Leisure and hospitality	261.4	280.0	265.4	266.9	271.0	9.6	3.7
Other services	149.6	153.1	150.6	151.2	151.9	2.3	1.5
Government	553.5	557.9	550.5	548.1	551.0	-2.5	-0.5
Newark-Union Metropolitan Division							
Total nonfarm	1,023.1	1,041.1	1,013.2	1,011.3	1,017.3	-5.8	-0.6
Total private	862.1	878.8	854.1	850.1	855.5	-6.6	-0.8
Construction and mining	38.9	43.2	39.9	38.8	39.2	0.3	0.8
Manufacturing	93.9	92.6	90.5	90.7	91.0	-2.9	-3.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	216.3	224.4	218.1	215.6	216.6	0.3	0.1
Information	26.9	25.9	24.8	25.0	25.2	-1.7	-6.3
Financial activities	80.0	82.2	81.2	80.9	81.0	1.0	1.3
Professional and business services	161.7	161.2	155.8	155.2	156.5	-5.2	-3.2
Education and health services	137.9	140.4	138.2	138.0	139.1	1.2	0.9
Leisure and hospitality	61.8	63.6	61.5	61.6	62.2	0.4	0.6
Other services	44.7	45.3	44.1	44.3	44.7	0.0	0.0
Government	161.0	162.3	159.1	161.2	161.8	0.8	0.5

p =preliminary.

NOTE: Data are counts of jobs by place of work. Estimates are currently projected from March 2004 benchmark levels. Estimates subsequent to the current benchmark month are provisional and will be revised when new information becomes available. Changes were calculated using unrounded numbers.

**Map 1. Over-the-year change in employment,
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island,
March 2005**

